

In the specification:

◇◇ Please replace 6, lines 12-27 with the following:

Such solutions are suitable for producing carrier matrices which contain hedgehog proteins in pharmaceutically effective concentrations and are suitable for pharmaceutical applications.

Hence a further subject matter of the invention is a collagen carrier which contains 3 mg hydrophobically modified hedgehog protein or more, preferably 10 mg or more per ml carrier matrix and arginine or argininium ions (preferably argininium sulfate). The concentration of arginine is preferably between 10 and 500 mmol/l, preferably in the pH range between 6 and 8.

Activity within the sense of the invention is understood as the activity of alkaline phosphatase (stimulation of the expression of alkali phosphatase) which the polypeptide can induce in mammalian cells (activity in the alkaline phosphatase test). In this method a mouse fibroblast cell line is cultured in a medium which contains foetal calf serum. Subsequently sterile filtered sample is added, the cells are lysed after ca. 5 days and alkaline phosphatase is determined in the cell lysate by means of the cleavage of a chromogenic substrate (pNP, p-nitrophenol) (J. Asahina, Exp. Cell. Res. 222 (1996) 38 - 47 and T. Nakamura (1997)).